



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Michele Shalaby, Chair
Nathaniel H. Yohalem
Tara B. White
Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, September 21, 2015
6 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Michele Shalaby, Chair
Nathaniel Yohalem
Tara B. White

Others Present: Mari Enoch, Town Administrator
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary
Courtney Turner

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 6 p.m. The minutes were read. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2015 minutes as amended and to hold the minutes of September 9, 2015.

Halloween

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to set the hours on Halloween, October 31, 2015, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Town Hall will also be open during those hours to meet and greet the Trick or Treaters and pass out candy.

Revolutionary War Memorial

Courtney Turner reported he had been in contact with Thomas P. Vincent, attorney for Tom Adams, a descendent of Moses Adams, who fought and died in the Revolutionary War. Although Mr. Adams' family would like to have a marker commemorating Moses Adams' service during the War, Courtney felt that a memorial should include all those men/woman who served during that time. He went on to explain that there is a 20 volume set, giving information on who served, from what town, and for how long. Courtney also advised that Jim Parrish in Great Barrington has a complete set of these documents. Courtney suggested that perhaps the Moses' family might be interested in sponsoring a project to uncover other soldiers who served from New Marlborough so that the Town could pay tribute to all who served. Members of the DAR or high school/college students may be contacted to work on such a project.

Veterans Day

Select Chair Michele Shalaby asked Courtney Turner if there is anything the Town or Board of Selectmen could do to pay tribute to the veterans in Town. Courtney will advise the Board at a later date of any programs that may be set for November 11.

Tree Warden Position Description

The Board decided that the Highway Department should be called in an emergency situation, i.e. if a tree has fallen in a Town road. Michele will make those changes to the Position Description.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the Position Description for the Tree Warden as amended.

Unserved Broadband Communities

An email will be sent to all unserved broadband communities, requesting their support in combining efforts and monies for legal and financial advice, thereby saving each town a duplication of effort and money.

Joint Meeting with Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen

A meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, October 22, at 7 p.m. with the Finance Committee to discuss:

- Goals of the Board of Selectmen
- Financial Policy
- Broadband Direction
- Five-year Road Plan

Special Town Meeting

The Board of Selectmen decided there was not enough time to set a Special Town Meeting in November to discuss and vote on broadband. A meeting will be scheduled in April for that purpose.

Administrative Updates

Town Administrator Mari Enoch advised she consulted with Counsel regarding the existing property line dispute. She was advised, and will send a letter advising the same, that property line disputes must be settled between the parties involved, and that the Town bears no responsibility for those disputes.

Selectmen's Updates

Gas Tax – Selectman Tara White has prepared a letter to be sent to Gov. Charles Baker, Senator Ben Downing, Rep. Richard Neal, Rep. William Pignatelli, and Senator Elizabeth Warren, requesting additional Chapter 90 funds. The additional funds would compensate

those Towns not having gas stations, from which they would receive an additional \$.03/gallon, making it more fair and equitable to help those Towns with road/bridge repair. The Board agreed that the letter should be sent.

Clayton Mill River Culvert – Selectman Tara White proposed sending a letter to Stantec advising them of the Town's disappointment in not having the precast culvert completed this year. Bids to complete this culvert will now go out in March 2016, with a completion date of September 30, 2016. Select Chair, Michele Shalaby, recused herself from this discussion. Selectman Nat Yohalem will draft a letter.

School Committee Meeting, September 17, 2015 – Tara White reported that the lease agreement agenda item with towns other than Sheffield was tabled at that meeting. The Flying Cloud meeting with the School Board is scheduled for September 21. The School Committee also reported they received a letter from Counsel in Monterey stating that the School Committee must rescind the vote to suspend the Monterey school for a year because it was in violation of the regional agreement. The letter from Monterey's Counsel made reference to "other options," however, that was not discussed. Town Administrator, Mari Enoch, will contact the School Board to request a copy of that letter. Selectman, Nat Yohalem, would like the disclosure of the contents of that letter revealed, part of which is a waiver of the attorney-client privilege.

Open Items List

The "Open Items" list was discussed. Those items that have been completed will be removed from the list and new items will be added.

New Hire Police Officer

Nat Yohalem advised that the Police Chief, Graham Frank, would like to have a Selectman present during the interview process, as this is done in other towns. This will be clarified with Graham.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Fleck
Administrative Secretary